

**District of Columbia Public Schools
2009 Summer Reading List For Rising 1st Grade Students**

Author	Title	Synopsis
Aardema, Verna	Who's in Rabbit's House?	Rabbit has a problem; someone is inside her house and won't let her in.
Allard, Harry	Miss Nelson Is Missing	The kids in Room 207 take advantage of their teacher's good nature until she disappears and they are faced with a vile substitute.
Arnold, Tedd	Hi, Fly Guy	When Buzz captures a fly to enter in The Amazing Pet Show, his parents and the judges tell him that a fly cannot be a pet, but Fly Guy proves them wrong.
Bearden, Romare	Lil Dan the Drummer Boy	L'il Dan, informed by a company of Union soldiers that he is no longer a slave, follows them and uses his beloved drum to save them from attack. Includes a reading by Maya Angelou on CD.
Browne, Anthony	Voices in the Park	The mementos left at the Vietnam War Memorial tell more than 58,000 stories of what might have been. The bits of lives left behind at our public parks are like ripples in a pool, telling millions of stories about our connections to the land.
Bradley, Kimberly	Pop! A Book About Bubbles	Simple text explains how soap bubbles are made, why they are always round, and why they pop.
Brewster, Hugh	Dinosaurs in Your Backyard	An examination of the present knowledge and theories about dinosaurs, including the strong possibility that they are the forerunners of birds.
Buck, Nola	Sid and Sam	Sid sings a long song that drives Sam crazy.
Cammuso, Frank	Otto's Orange Day	Otto meets a magical genie who grants his wish to make the whole world orange, but Otto soon realizes orange isn't the best color for everything, especially spinach.
Catalanotto, Peter	Emily's Art	Emily paints four pictures and enters one in the first-grade art contest, but the judge interprets Emily's entry as a rabbit instead of a dog.
Cazet, Denys	Minnie and Moo: Wanted Dead or Alive	To help Mr. Farmer with his finances, Minnie and Moo go to the bank to ask for money and are mistaken for the Bazooka sisters, dangerous outlaws.
Cosby, Bill	The Meanest Thing to Say	When a new boy in his second grade class tries to get the other students to play a game that involves saying the meanest things possible to one another, Little Bill shows him a better way to make friends.

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Daly, Niki	Welcome to Zanzibar Road	After moving into the house on Zanzibar Road that her neighbors helped her build, Mama Jumbo decides to share it with Little Chico.
Demuth, Patricia B.	Johnny Appleseed	A recount of the man who traveled west planting apple seeds to make the country a better place to live.
Gerstein, Mordecai	The Man Who Walked Between the Towers	A lyrical evocation of Philippe Petit's 1974 tightrope walk between the World Trade Center towers.
Grey, Mini	Traction Man is Here	Traction Man, a boy's courageous action figure, has a variety of adventures with Scrubbing Brush and other objects in the house.
Hatkoff, Isabella	Owen and Mzee: The True Story...	Illustrated text and full-color photographs tell the true story of the unusual relationship between Owen, a baby hippopotamus orphaned by the tsunami, and Mzee, a 130-year-old giant tortoise.
Heide, Florence P.	Day of Ahmed's Secret	Ahmed rides his donkey cart throughout the city of Cairo, hurrying to finish his work, so he can return home and share his secret with his family.
Hoffman, Mary	Amazing Grace	Although a classmate says that she cannot play Peter Pan in the school play because she is black, Grace discovers that she can do anything she sets her mind to do.
Jenkins, Martin	Grandma Elephant's in Charge	A description of the behavior of elephants in a family group, particularly the role of the older female elephants.
Kajikawa, Kimiko	Tsunami	Ann Morris and UNICEF photographer Heidi Larson traveled to the region of Thailand hit by the recent Tsunami to tell the story of a family before and after the event.
Lawrence, Jacob	Harriet and the Promised Land	A poem relating the dedicated efforts of Harriet Tubman to lead her fellow slaves to freedom.
LeSieg, Theo	The Tooth Book	Rhyming text and illustrations briefly point out what animals have teeth, their uses, and how to care for them.

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Lester, Julius	John Henry	The life story of John Henry, the African American railroad legend known as the "Steel Driving Man."
Love, Pamela	Two Feet Up, Two Feet Down	In this rhyming story, a girl describes how she jumps rope.
Marshall, James	Red Riding Hood	A little girl meets a hungry wolf in the forest on her way to visit her grandmother.
McKissack, Patricia	Messy Bessey	After having fun at their family reunion, Messy Bessey's family cleans up and leaves the park as beautiful as when they arrived.
McGill, Alice	Way Up and Over Everything	In this retelling of a folktale, five Africans escape the horrors of slavery by simply disappearing into thin air.
Meddaugh, Susan	Martha Calling	When she wins a call-in radio contest, Martha the talking dog and her family go for a vacation and manage to change the "no dogs allowed" policy.
Millman, Isaac	Moses Goes to a Concert	Moses and his schoolmates, all deaf, attend a concert where the orchestra's percussionist is also deaf. Includes
Minarik, Else H.	A Kiss for Little Bear	Little Bear's thank-you kiss from grandmother gets passed on to him by many animals and greatly aids the skunks' romance.
Nivola, Claire	Planting the Trees of Kenya	Growing up in Kenya, there were beautiful gardens and water filled with fish; returned from college to find the trees and gardens gone and people sick; tries her best to bring her home back to it's former luster.
Ostby, Kristin	A Baby Panda Is Born	Children learn about panda bears, describing what panda's look like, what they eat, how they act, and why there are so few panda's left in China, and recounts the story of Mei Lan, a panda cub born at the Atlanta Zoo in 2007.
Park, Barbara	Junie B. , First Grader: Boss for Lunch	Junie, an outspoken, sometimes exasperating, first grader is thrilled when she is told she can help out in the school cafeteria.

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Parish, Peggy	Amelia Bedelia	A literal-minded housekeeper causes a ruckus in the household when she attempts to make sense of some instructions.
Parr, Todd	The Family Book	Describes a variety of families, some big and some small, some with only one parent and some with two moms or dads, some quiet and some noisy, but all alike in some ways, and special no matter what.
Pinkney, Andrea	Duke Ellington	This swinging, vibrant picture book about jazz composer Edward Kennedy Ellington, better known as "Duke," is a tribute to the legend that continues to live on and influence musicians everywhere.
Robbins, Jacqui	The New Girl...and Me	Two African-American girls named Shakeeta and Mia become friends when Shakeeta boasts that she has a pet iguana and Mia learns how to help Shakeeta "feel at home" even when she is in school.
Raschka, Chris	Peter and the Wolf	Retells the orchestral fairy tale of the boy who, ignoring his grandfather's warnings, proceeds to capture a wolf.
Rodanas, Kristina	Dragonfly's Tale	Based on traditional Zuni tale, this story reflects the original tellers' concern with kindness to others and respect for
Ryan, Pam Munoz	Mice and Beans	In this rhythmic cumulative tale Rosa Maria spends the week getting ready for her granddaughter's birthday party and trying to avoid attracting mice--unaware that the mice in her walls
Rylant, Cynthia	Henry and Mudge Get the Cold Shivers	When Mudge gets sick unexpectedly, Henry does all he can to make him feel better.
San Souci, Rober D.	Cendrillon: A Caribbean Cinderella	A Creole variant of the familiar Cinderella tale set in the Caribbean and narrated by the godmother who helps Cendrillon find true love.
San Souci, Robert D.	The Talking Eggs	A Southern folktale in which kind Blanche, following the instructions of an old witch, gains riches, while her greedy sister makes fun of the old woman and is duly rewarded.

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Soto, Gary	Too Many Tamales	Maria tries on her mother's wedding ring while helping make tamales for a Christmas family get-together. Panic ensues when hours later, she realizes the ring is missing.
Willems, Mo	I Will Surprise My Friend!	Best friends Elephant and Piggie decide that they will try to surprise each other, with unexpected results.
Woodson, Jacqueline	Show Way	A mother passes on the tradition of making quilts, or "Show ways", that serve as secret maps for freedom seeking slaves.